

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) The method ~~to protect the airfoils of~~ of protecting unused blades and vanes of gas turbine engines and steam turbine engines and components of steam turbine engines comprising the steps of:

i) cold working ~~[[the]]~~ a surface of the ~~airfoil~~ blade ~~[[and]] or component to impart a residual compressive stress in the range of 5N to 20N which approximates the proportional limit of the material of the blade or component;~~

ii) cleansing the surface of the ~~[[parts]]~~ blade or component in step i);

iii) coating the surface of the blade or component cleansed in step ii) with a material selected from the group consisting essentially of titanium, TiN, a chromium alloy, a nickel alloy, a vanadium alloy and a cobalt alloy ~~of the parts in step ii)~~ by a cathodic arc deposition at temperatures in the range of from 300. degrees to 350 degrees Fahrenheit to obtain layers of different hardness wherein ~~[[to a]]~~ the total thickness of all the layers is generally between 3 microns to 30 microns.

2. (Currently amended) The method in claim 2 wherein ~~the coating material can be taken essentially from chromium, nickel, vanadium or cobalt bearing alloys that may have~~ said alloying elements of the coating materials are selected from the group consisting essentially of ~~such as~~ aluminum, cobalt and nickel.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the cold working is selected from the group consisting essentially of ~~any of the processes of~~ shot peening, ceramic peening, glass bead peening, and laser peening.

4. (Currently amended) The method of ~~repair of~~ repairing used blades or vanes of gas and steam turbine engines and components of steam turbine engines to protect against erosion, corrosion and fatigue comprising the steps of:

a. cleaning and/or de-greasing the used blades or vanes or components;

b. inspecting the used blades or vanes or components from step ~~[[1]]~~ a);

c. cleaning and/or de-greasing the used blades or vanes or components;

d. blending cracks, blemishes and other ~~indications~~ defects of the used blades or vanes or components;

e. inspecting by fluorescent ~~penetrants~~ inspect penetrant

inspection the used blades or vanes or components;

f. cleaning and/or de-greasing the used blades or vanes or components;

g. cold working the surface of ~~the airfoil of~~ the blades or vanes or the surface of the component to impart a residual compressive stress which approximates the proportional limit of the material of the blade or component ~~in the range of 5N to 20N;~~

h. cleaning the used blades or vanes or components;

i. coating the surface ~~with a TiN~~ of the parts cleaned in step [[ii)]] h) with a material selected from the group consisting essentially of titanium, TiN, a chromium alloy, a nickel alloy, a vanadium alloy and a cobalt alloy by a cathodic arc deposition at temperatures in the range of from 300 degrees to 350 degrees Fahrenheit to obtain layers of different hardness wherein [[to a]] the total thickness of all the layers is generally between 3 microns to 30 microns[[;]]

~~j. inspecting the finished blade, vane or component.~~

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the cold working in the step of ~~paragraph g. g)~~ is by ceramic bead peening ~~pursuant to AMS 2430 using SAE AZB300-AZB425 ceramic shot to an intensity of 10N.~~

7. (Currently amended) The method in claim 4 wherein ~~the coating material can be taken essentially from chromium, nickel, vanadium or cobalt bearing alloys that may have~~ said alloying elements of the coating materials are selected from the group consisting essentially of ~~such as~~ aluminum, cobalt and nickel.

8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the cold working is selected from the group consisting ~~consists essentially of any of the processes~~ of shot peening, ceramic peening, glass bead peening, and laser peening.

9. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1 further including the step of:

iv) inspecting the blades, vanes or components to insure the thickness of the coating material is within the acceptable limits.

+

10. (New) The method as claimed in claim 4 further including the step of:

j) inspecting the finished blades, vanes or components to insure the thickness of the coating material is within the acceptable limits.